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in which so many valuable fragments of early classical and biblical texts are to be found.¹

W. makes a preliminary paleographic study with the object of classifying the various forms of handwriting. After which he examines the references made in his papyri to public government and institutions.

The third part of the pamphlet contains a careful restoration of the legal forms of agreement between buyers and sellers, etc., by means of which a large number of fragments of papyrus are at once completely restored, with a very small margin of conjecture. This part of the work is extremely valuable. It is an engine as well as a recovery.

The fourth part is chiefly numismatic and chronological in value. The writer collects from the papyrus documents many instances of the forms of legal tender, and interprets them. He also shows that the Egyptians used a separate measurement of the Indiction, differing from the ordinary Constantinopolitan reckoning (from the 1st of September) as generally found in Greek MSS.

J. RENDEL HARRIS.

ΞΕΝΟΦΩΝΤΟΣ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΚΟΣ. The Oeconomicus of Xenophon, with introduction, explanatory notes, critical appendix and lexicon. By HUBERT A. HOLDEN, M. A., LL. D. London and New York, Macmillan & Co., 1884.

The Oeconomicus is one of the most attractive of Xenophon's works, and it is strange that it has not been more frequently edited, more frequently read in schools. Although it turns for some chapters on the conjugal relation, there is scarcely anything to which the most prudish could object, and the couple of sentences that might be sacrificed to the *maxima reverentia* are delicacy itself in comparison with what one finds in that popular text-book the Memorabilia. It is a pity that the ancients are studied so exclusively when they are on parade, and Dr. Holden has done well to bring his wide knowledge, his practical experience, and his tireless industry to bear on the elucidation of a book which goes far to make one forgive Xenophon the sad memories of the Anabasis. The form in which Dr. Holden's edition appears is much too modest, and the same may be said of other volumes of the unequal series of which the Oeconomicus forms a part, such as Postgate's Propertius and Mayor's Third Book of Pliny's Letters. Such books go far beyond the range of the schoolboys for whom they seem to be primarily intended, and deserve a place among the leading editions. True, Dr. Holden keeps the beginner steadily in view, but, while he explains all the syntactical phenomena that are recognized in Goodwin's Greek Grammar by references to that popular manual, the results of special research as recorded in more elaborate treatises or in scattered monographs have been brought within the reach of the reader, and the more advanced student is thus reminded of the gaps in his knowledge, and is stimulated to observe more narrowly. Occasionally Dr. Holden's extracts are made somewhat hastily, as has been noticed in some of the passages quoted from this Journal. So p. 113, 'πρὶν is used after affirmative and negative sentences,' should read 'πρὶν with indic.' On p. 211, 'the

¹ See Wiener Studien, IV.

articular infinitive is used *with the genitive* after the prepositions . . . *εἰς, ἐν* . . . ' But these are slight errors and correct themselves. The divagations of Xenophon's usage are in the main carefully noted, and the complete lexical index in which large use has been made of Sauppe's *Lexilogus* is a valuable addition to the book. *ἔσπε* and *ὥς* final might have been emphasized a little; *σὶν*, though now provided for in L. and S., should not have been suffered to go by without stress, but Dr. Holden has passed over very little that is worth noticing, and one cannot be too grateful to an editor who leads the student to think of the stylistic effect of vocabulary and grammar. The fewest boys are taught to have any notion whatever of the history of the language, and the Greek that many of them get up bears the same relation to Attic that Baboo English does to our mother-tongue. The subject-matter of the *Oeconomicus* is abundantly illustrated, and the vision of antique life widened by the commentary. As might have been expected, Dr. Holden has no sympathy with Lincke's extravagant *ἀθέτησις* and accepts the results of Professor Morris's criticism as presented in this Journal, Vol. I, p. 169 foll.

B. L. G.